

DISPATCH		CLASSIFICATION S E C R E T	DISPATCH SYMBOL AND NO. EGNA-27420
TO INFO	Chief, EE Chief, Munich Liaison Base Chief of Station, Germany Chief, Frankfurt Operations Base		HEADQUARTERS FILE NO. C 3
FROM	Chief of Base, Bonn	DATE 20 April 1964	
SUBJECT	CAVATA/Liaison BfV President SCHRUEBBERS's Health	MICROFILMED APR 24 1964 DOC. MICRO. SER. EX-43.3--(CHECK "X" ONE) MARKED FOR INDEXING NO INDEXING REQUIRED INDEXING CAN BE JUDGED BY QUALIFIED HQ. DESK ONLY	
ACTION REQUIRED	For Your Information		
REFERENCES:			

1. There has been no doubt in our minds that the Telephone Affair and the subsequent parliamentary investigation has been a tremendous strain on President SCHRUEBBERS, although he has tried to maintain an optimistic attitude throughout the entire ordeal. Nonetheless, the effects of this strain have been apparent in his physical appearance and from comments made by his wife at various social functions.

2. During a meeting with him on 16 April, however, the seriousness of his condition was made clear to us by the President himself. He said that he had felt heart pains for some time and has been under doctor's treatment for this condition. Recently, however, his house doctor advised him to go to a specialist for electro-cardiogram tests. Through an error by the specialist's secretary the results of these tests were sent directly to SCHRUEBBERS, instead of to his house doctor. SCHRUEBBERS read a very frank report that the left side of his heart was considerably enlarged and had ceased to function properly. The specialist stated bluntly that unless SCHRUEBBERS underwent immediate treatment and relaxed his work schedule he would be dead in three months.

3. This misdirected report greatly shocked President SCHRUEBBERS and embarrassed his doctor, but nonetheless the specialist's diagnosis remains valid. SCHRUEBBERS, therefore, plans to take a month's cure in a heart treatment sanatorium during the month of May 1964. He hopes that the treatment will succeed in revitalizing the left side of his heart, but this remains to be seen.

4. An added factor against full recovery is the fact that SCHRUEBBERS's brother died suddenly of a heart attack last year at the age of 50, even though he had no previous heart ailment. Apparently, there is a history of heart illness in the family.

5. The consequences of SCHRUEBBERS' illness on the BfV are difficult to estimate at present. At certain times during the parliamentary investigation it has appeared as if SCHRUEBBERS might lose his job, but more recently as the investigation draws to a close we have been inclined to believe that SCHRUEBBERS will not be sacrificed, but on the other hand Vice President RADKE may end up as the scapegoat. Since RADKE will retire at the latest on 31 October 1964, his departure and replacement will be necessary in any case. If SCHRUEBBERS is forced to retire for health reasons, the BfV will be left without any senior supervisors and most certainly an inexperienced official will be brought in from the outside. Whether Dr. NOJLAU will be promoted to Vice President still remains very much up in the air, although most BfVers support his candidacy for the position.

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6. The above information has already become a subject of frequent conversation among senior BfV officials, who suffered serious blows to their morale during the investigation of the BfV and who greatly desire to see stability and professionalism return to the leadership of the BfV. SCHRUEBBERS' illness has caused most BfVers additional worry about the future of the organization.

7. We will keep the addressees advised of further developments.

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